

Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 CU-04 SS-14 L-03 NSC-10 AID-20

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R 301857 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5177

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT/ MX

SUBJ: UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES INVITE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES
TO INTERVENE IN CAMPUS CRIME.

1. UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES, LED BY NEW RECTOR, GUILLERMO SOBERON, PUBLISHED HALF PAGE PAID ADS IN ALL MAJOR MEXICO CITY DAILY NEWSPAPERS ON MARCH 29. STATEMENT, WHICH WAS ADDRESSED TO UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY, SPELLED OUT POSITION OF UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES IN CALLING FOR FEDERAL POLICE INTERVENTION IN CASES OF ON- CAMPUS CRIMES. AD QUOTES STATEMENT OF A PREVIOUS UNIVERSITY RECTOR IN SPELLING OUT EXACT LIMITS OF UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY, LIMITING IT TO INTERNAL, ACADEMIC, ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND STUDENT POLITICS. STATEMENT TAKES NOTE OF ALARMING INCREASE OF CAMPUS CRIMES TOTALLY UNRELATED TO UNIVERSITY ISSUES, STATES THAT THESE CRIMES ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM PROTECTIVE CLOAK OF UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY, AND URGES VIGOROUS STATE PROSECUTION OF SUCH CRIMINALS.

2. SPECIFICALLY, STATEMENT CAME AS RESPONSE TO NEAR FATAL STABBING OF A UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL ON MARCH 28, AND SUBSEQUENT INTERVENTION OF FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL POLICE AT REQUEST OF UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES. LIC. FERNANDO FLORES GOMEZ, SUBDIRECTOR OF PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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NO. 4 WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN STABBING INCIDENT IN FRONT OF PREPA NO. 4 BUILDING BY A GROUP OF PSEUDO- STUDENT THUGS OR " PORRISTAS," APPARENTLY UNDER INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL. UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES CALLED ON FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL POLICE TO INTERVENE. ONE OF THUGS, IDENTIFIED AS ROSALIO MORALES, IS FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE FOR SIMILAR OFFENSES IN THE PAST, AND IS ACTIVELY BEING SOUGHT.

3. THE PAID AD IS APPARENTLY MEANT TO FORESTALL POSSIBLE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST POLICE " VIOLATION" OF AUTONOMY, BY MAKING IT CLEAR THAT SUCH INTERVENTION WAS AT REQUEST OF UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT STATEMENT GOES CONSIDERABLY FARTHER, TO MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN AUTONOMY AND THE " EXTRA- TERRITORIALITY," WHICH STUDENT ACTIVISTS SOMETIMES ATTEMPT TO AFFECT, BUT WHICH IS NOT RPT NOT PART OF UNIVERSITY' S SPECIAL PRIVILEGES. UNDER AUTONOMY, POLICE INTERFERENCE IN CERTAIN TYPES OF INTERNAL UNIVERSITY ISSUES IS PROHIBITED REGARDLESS OF WHERE SUCH ACTS TAKE PLACE, WHEREAS UNDER EXTRA- TERRITORIALITY, POLICE INTERFERENCE OR ENTRY ONTO UNIVERSITY GROUNDS WOULD BE PROHIBITED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, EVEN IN PURSUIT OF COMMON CRIMINALS. THIS IS A DISTINCTION ATTORNEY GENERAL' S OFFICE HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TRIED TO MAKE WITHOUT ACTUALLY PUTTING IT TO THE TEST. NOW, UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES HAVE DONE IT FOR HIM. SUCH ACTION, WHILE IT MAY SUCCESSFULLY EXHONERATE JUDICIAL POLICE OF A VIOLATION OF AUTONOMY, IS NOT APT TO ENHANCE SOBERON' S POPULARITY AMONG STUDENT ACTIVISTS.

MCBRIDE

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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